* A *

Iust and True REMONSTRANCE OF HIS MAIESTIES *MINES-ROYALL* IN THE PRINCIPALITY OF WALES

Presented
By *Thomas Bussell* Esquire, *Farmer of the said* Mines-Royall *to his Majestie.*

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Cum privilegio

MEMOIRS

OF THE

PRINCIPALITY

OF

WALES.

Most high and mighty Soveraigne,

Hereas *Your Majesty* was graciously pleased not onely to command the imployment of my service in your Highnesse *Mines Royall*, occasioned by some discourse of them at *Enston-Rock*; your Majesty vouchsafing to honour that place with your presence: but also to give your Majesty a true relation, what they were when I entred upon them, what they are since at present, and of what hope for the future, if diligently pursued and cherish'd by your Royall aspect; In obedience whereunto, I doe in all humility affirme, that the *Mines* at my first entrance were drown'd with water, and consequently not worth the working, *as by severall certificates hereunto annexed appeareth*, which did then much discourage my undertakings: but considering how deepely your Majesties many favours had engaged me the meanest of your Subjects, I conceaved my selfe obliged to adventure upon the undermining of the adjacent Mountaines, thereby to make triall, whether those *Mines* (if once discovered at the surface of the earth) would not prove richer in their deeper search, of which, having received severall opinions from the best Mineral-masters of our age, as Sir *Francis Godolphin*, M. *Alexander Roberts*, M. *Joseph Hextetter*, and M. *Walter Barkby*, with divers others well practised in that way, encouraging me therein; I then resolved to hazzard my fortune on them, assuring my selfe that all *Mines* and *Minerals* were to bee discovered by some one or other, because originally created for mans use, and Gods glory: and thus having setled my former re-

irresolute thoughts, I began with a cheerefull heart to cut through five severall mountaines, at their lowest levell, which by the Art of Dialling appeared to be some sixtie, some eightie, and some an hundred fathomes perpendicular, and so continued these battery-workes foure yeares, night and day, before my hopes could give mee any happie assurance that the *Minerall-beds* of these subterraneall riches, lay fast lock'd in those barren Rocks, untill my charge grew so great, that I became pitied of my friends, and insulted over by my enemies, which did anew perplex my minde: yet when I considered that I was not borne for my selfe, but for the Service of God, your Majesty, and my Country, and that I had not only that heavenly guider to direct me, but also your sacred Majestie to encourage mee, I then began to cast off my former justly conceived feares, and (notwithstanding any opposition or seeming diswasive arguments) to pitch on this resolution, that *better it were for me to suffer shipwrack in my poore estate and credit, then that such treasures should lye buried in the* BOWELS *of those vast mountaines*, and not be made both knowne, and beneficiall to your gracious Majestie, being inherent to your prerogative, as by the declaration under the hands of learned Counsell hereunto annexed appeares, which hills although large in extent, yet are not considerable in herbage, nor fit for any other plough, then the Miners sledge, gad, and twybill.

That which first wrought in mee a desire to try and fathome those *Mines* was a sensible discourse delivered mee, by a *Portugall* in presence of Sir *Francis Godolphin* (by whose death I lost the hope of a most knowing partner) who had for many yeares beene imployed under the King of *Spaine* in his *West India Mines*, purporting that if his Master were Soveraigne Lord of those Brittish hills, as is your Majestie, he would not doubt but to make them a second *Indies*, deeply protesting that the greatest riches in those Mountaines

taines lay in their loweſt levels, which I finde to be true by undeniable experience in thoſe five mountaines. For by this way of driving through the depth of Rocks, we are not only freed from the danger and deluge of waters, but have alſo diſcovered the veines to prove richer in quantity and quality, ſome containing twenty pound, ſome fifteene, ſome tenne, and ſome ſix in Silver, in the Tunne of Lead upon the great *Teſt*, which are anſwerable to moſt of the *Mines*, of the King of *Spaine*, the Emperour of *Germany*, and the Duke of *Saxony*; finding moreover, that by mixing and ſmelting theſe ſeverall veines together, the one proves a good additament to the other, and becomes thereby a meanes to advance the *Mines* Royall, and in them the good of your kingdome and Subjects.

We have many gracious teſtimonies how much the Almighty is pleaſed with theſe our innocent labours; by continuall preſervation of the workemen amidſt their hourely dangers, eſpecially in one accident, which lately befell, by driving an Addit into one of thoſe mountaines called *Tallibont*; but becauſe I was no eye-witneſſe of it, I humbly deſire your Majeſties peruſall of the narration thereof (as I received it) being then in London, from a miniſter reſident Preacher to the *Minerall* men, hereunto annexed.

And as I am bound to give to *Cæſar* that which is *Cæſars*, ſo muſt I further humbly acknowledge your Majeſties large addition to your former Royall favours in granting mee (the meaneſt of your Creatures) liberty to give your Majeſties impreſſion to ſuch Silver, as the Mole-like *Miners* caſt out of the Earth, for their ſpeedier payment, they being the men who make the rocks their reſting place, and expect no other reward or benefit for their ſweaty browes then what they gaine from out of the darke Cavernes of the earth by importunate labour.

And for declaration of part of my poore indeavours,

your humblest suppliant begs a perusall of the annexed remonstrance, presented by your honourable and grave ministers of Justice, and other noble Gentlemen of quality, residing within your Principality of *Wales*, whose eyes have beene spectators, as your servant, a diligent labourer in those *Mineralll Vineyards*. And having thus far traced out, & dived into the secrets of natures treasures, and by the influence of your Majesties favours, overcome those amazing difficulties, which hindred the entrance of these great adventures, (I then for better improvement of the works, caused a meeting of *Miners, Manyers, Smelters and refiners*, to consult debate and try, whether fuell of turfe would not separate the Oare, extract the silver, & reduce the Litharge, as well as the vast expence, of whole Forrests of woods formerly consumed for that purpose; and upon an exact triall made thereof, by altering the earthy substance of turfe into charkie cynders, we found by infallible experience, that Your Majesties Turfaries will furnish Your *Mines Royall* with Fuell to all future ages. So that there remaineth nothing more to make the inside of these barren Mountaines, produce an addition of gems to your Crowne, but to finish the building of your Princely foundation by your Royall recommendation thereof to your High Court of Parliament, whose judgements, will quickly discerne how much these *Mines* would redound to the generall good; Your Majesties gracious letters having already caused sundry Merchants, and Gentlemen of quality, to take a personall view of the gaine, which accrewes from this publike worke of the *Mines Royall*, as a meanes to inrich Your subjects the ancient *Britaines* of those parts, with the free trade, and vent of their *Home-made Cloth*, and to enable them to become Merchant-adventurers, as well by land as Sea. Many others also of eminent ability will be encouraged by these apparant possibilities of profit, to

hazzard

hazzard a portion of their present fortunes as a lot, so as they may bee secured to enjoy those prizes, which divine providence shall cast, and conferre upon them in these their so Honest Adventures. And for manifest proofe of my proceedings in this businesse, I shall with Your Royall assent, humbly desire a commission from the High Court of Parliament, to examine the former and present state of the *Mines Royall*, and your Majesties riches that are buried under the most inconsiderable herbage, of these vast Mountaines, which in time may alter the name of *Welch Rocks* into *Welch Indies*, and make it plainly appeare to any (who is not meerely of an earthly, & avaritious temper, and can in any measure resent the true support of a flourishing State, that they, (if followed) cannot but prove flowers to the Crowne, a glory to the kingdome, and a rich blessing to the subject.

Be pleased therefore most gracious Soveraigne, to vouchsafe that the beames of Your Royall favour, may cherish the growth of this hopefull designe, so as it be not blasted in the bud, and then my affectionate endeavours prove as fruitlesse to this Common-wealth, as was the neglected tender of *Columbus* his discovery of the *West-Indian-Mines* in the raigne of *Henry* the seaventh.

And to make it in some measure appeare to your Majesty, how desirous I am to advance your revenew in an imployment so much conducing to the publike good, I doe in all humblenesse offer (as an increase of rent after the expiration of the Lady *Middletons* Lease assigned to me, and yet in being) one thousand pounds by the yeere for and during the continuance of another lease thereof granted to mee in reversion, for confirmation of which leases by your Majesty, and your High Court of Parliament, I doe further humbly present 1000 Markes as a prefine to your Majesties Privy Purse; over and above the benefit of your

Majesties

Majesties Mintage, the increase of shipping and the importation of necessary commodities, occationed hereby, which as I am informed by *Merchants* of good worth that drive the trade, will amount to 4000 li. *per annum*. And for grant of the custome of exportation of such Lead only, out of which the silver is refined, I will (so it please your *Majestie*) be bound to double the yeerely Revenew of the *Farmers* booke, according to a medium, of seaven yeares cast up for that Port of *Deny*: your *Majestie* having not from any former undertaker, or Farmour of those *Mines*, ever received either fine or penny of rent, all which I submissively propose, and desire the rather, to encourage my Coadventurers, who as they were first invited by Your Princely letters of assurance, so will they now (things being thus honourably setled) bee most willing to expose their fortunes, for the consummating of so advantagious, so honourable, and so publick a good worke.

Having thus made to your Majesty a true relation of the state of your *Mines* Royal in Wales, & a faithful explication of my loyall intendments and of other Minerall mens opinions conceived of those *Mines*, I professe before God and your sacred Majesty, that I therein, have no other ends, then the glory of my Maker, the honour of your Majesty, and the good of my Country. Let mee therefore on a bended knee humbly implore your Soveraigne goodnesse, not only to peruse these Petitions, and Certificats annexed, but also to pardon the constrained prolixity of

Your Majesties most humble and devoted servant

Thomas Bushell.

The declaration of learned Lawyers, what a MINE-ROYALL is according to former presidents.

ALthough the Gold or Silver contained in the base mettall of a mine, in the lands of a Subiect, be of lesse valew then the baser Mettall, yet if the Gold or Silver doe countervaile the charge of the refining, or be of more worth then the base Mettal spent in refining it, this is a *Mine-Royall*, and as well the base Mettall, as the Gold and Silver in it, belong by prerogative to the Crowne,

Sir *Ralph Whitfield*. His Majesties Serjeant at Law.
Sir *Edw. Harbert*. Att. Gen.
Oliver Saint Iohns. Solicitor
Iohn Glandvill, Serjeant.
Iohn Wilde, Serjeant.
Richard Creswell, Serjeant.
Or. Bridgman the Pr. Solic.

Esquires.

Robert Holborne.
Iohn Herne.
Edward Bagshaw.
Thomas Lane.
Richard King.
Edmund Prideaux.
Iohn Maynard.
Edward Hide.
Iohn Glyn.
Charles Fulwood.
Harbottle Grimston.
Iohn White.
George Peard.
Iohn Francklin.
Richard Weston.
Iohn Glover.
William Ellis.
Thomas Culpeper.
Iohn Goodwin.
William Sanford.
Iohn George.
Iames Haward.

To the

Kings moſt Excellent Maieſty.

The humble Petition of THOMAS BUSHELL *Your Maieſties ſervant.*

Moſt humbly ſheweth,

THAT whereas your Royall Father of ever bleſſed memory, who was truely ſtiled the King of Peace, and mirror of mercy to the ſparing of life and bloud, was graciouſly pleaſed for ſaving the lives of ſuch malefactors, as were condemned to death by the Law for petty fellonies, being ſuch as were not any ſcandall to the Church or State, nor had imbrewed their hands in blood, to admit their tranſportation to the Eaſt India, and Virginia Companies, for furtherance of their plantations. In which action doubtleſſe hee did alſo caſt his eyes upon the warrantable proceedings and preſidents of other moſt famous Princes in the like kinde, as the late Queene *Elizabeth*, who but certaine Gallies of purpoſe for imployment of ſuch kind of offenders, of ſtrong and able bodies, as might attend her memorable deſignes at Sea, eſpecially upon all ſuddaine and reſolute enterprizes, it being the uſuall courſe of other Chriſtian Princes, as the King of Spaine, both for the ſupply of his Gallys againſt the Turkes

Turkes and Moores, and especially for the inlarge ment of his Indian Mines of Gole, Silver, Quick silver and the like, and his conquests of *Mallocco*, *Goa*, *Ormus*, and other rich & populous Ilands. The King of France for his Galleyes at *Marsellis*. The State of *Venice*. The Duke of *Florence*, who by such kind of saved offendors built *Ligorne* (one of the most famous Sea-ports within the Straits) In all which States and Services, divers of these malefactors by good incouragements have sought not so much by surviving, as by their incredible labours, effecting matters, otherwise held invincible, to obliterate their former ignominies by merit of rewards. And whereas in this your Maiesties populous Kingdome, too many such offendors are most untimely cut off in their best abilities of service, so is there within the pale of this Your Kingdome, and without any occasion of Sea, or forreine service, meanes of imployment for such persons, to redeeme their lost reputation, by indeavourng to doe faithfull service for their Countries honour, and the Kingdomes good, in that happy worke, begun by Your Sacred *Maiesty*, for the better discovery of Your Silver Mines. His most humble suite therefore is, that you would bee pleased out of all these weighty considerations and beneficiall consequences, tendidg so much to your Honor, Crown and Dignity, and good of the Common-wealth, to grant Your Maiesties commission, (if it may be thought fit by the advise of Your High and Honourable Court of Parliament) for the choosing of such severall persons out of the prisons in this your Kingdome, as are, and shall be condemned for small offences, and of able serviceable bodies, by the approbation of Your

Iudges, and shall implore Your Maiesties mercy to be imployed by your said subiect in the Workes of your Mines-Royall, they giving security for their good behaviour, with such limitation of time, and allowance for their sustentation; as to Your Maiesties said High Court of Parliament shall be thought fit, that by their dutifull and laborious performance therein, they may afterwards cõme into the happinesse of your Maiesties pardon of Grace for their former offences,

And your Petitioner shall ever rest, &c.

To the

Kings moſt Excellent Maieſty.

Moſt Gracious SOVERAIGNE,

HE Loyalty of my faithfull ſervice, will not ſuffer me to conceale a bequeathed Legacy to your Maieſty by the laſt Will and Teſtament of your moſt Loyall Subiect, Iohn Biſhop of Worceſter *lately deceaſed, of a treaſure diſcovered by him, and committed to my truſt, for revealing thereof to your* Maieſty.

Who perceiving the inclination, and affection I had to Mines and Minerals, *much commending it, as the moſt honeſt gaine, and greateſt good to a Common-wealth, beg in this enſuing diſcourſe unto me.*

Mr. Buſhell,

YOur owne eyes ſee how neare I am to the dwelling of death, by my gray hayres which are the true Records of foureſcore and fourteen yeares of age, next my limbs which have no more ſtrength, then thoſe that are lap't in the Sepulchre of their winding-ſheet, only my intellectuall parts are yet preſerved, to aſcribe God the glory, and to diſcloſe the ſecrets of two rich Mines, the one holding ſome quantity of Gold worth the extracting, the other in Silver worth the Refining; to your truſt and fidelity, with a confidence that your

cannot conceive me guilty, of betraying your iudgment with an imaginary treasure, when my soule and body are so neare the approach of death, as I must suddainly give an account in the other world, besides I have taken upon me, the calling of a spirituall profession, And have this day, received the Sacrament, as a pledge of my redemption, which I trust are sufficient motives, to beleeve truth from a dying mans tongue, who hath no other end, then that the hopefulnesse of such riches, may not be buried by my dissolution, but that the honour and profit thereof might redownd to his *Maiesty*, and his royall posterity, as a living and loyall remembrance of his Princely favours to mee and mine.

And thereupon he did inioyne me upon the integrity of my allegiance, to consecrate the first fruits of my labours therein, as his discovery and service to your sacred selfe: and thus having made a true relation of his discourse to me, I leave it to your Maiesties wisdome to approve or dislike.

Your Maiesties most humble Servant

Thomas Bushell.

TO
The most Illustrious PRINCE *CHARLES* Prince of Wales.

Most High and Mighty Prince,

AS the smaller Rivulets by their naturall motions make haste to pay their tribute unto the vast Ocean, as well as doe the greatest rivers: So come I with humble assurance, that your Highnesse will not despise this poore present, extracted out of your *Welch* Mines, wishing the coyne could speak that language of *Ophir*, as it doth this of *Cardigan*, wherein I trust by Divine Providence, and your Princely prevailing with the most honourable Court of Parliament, for the confirmation thereof; nothing doubting but that in processe of time, I shall be able with the assistance of my Coadventurers, and help of their greater purse and fortunes: to make these Brittish hills, as in scituation, so in esteeme too, resemble the West Indies, or at least wise those renowned mines of Saxony.

Thus I most humbly take Leave of your Highnesse, hoping your Princely goodnesse will pardon my presuming to present so great a Prince, with so poore a present, as doth in all humblenesse.

Your Highnesse devoted Beadsman,

Thomas Bushell.

TO
Our Dread Soveraigne Lord the KINGS moſt Excellent MAJESTY.

May it pleaſe your Maieſty,

EE doe moſt humbly and thankfully acknowledge, that Your Maieſties vouchſafing to this your Principality the truſt of a branch of Your Royall Mint, is an honour that neither our Anceſtors nor our ſelves durſt wiſh for; and we doe as humbly and as thankfully acknowledge and confeſſe, that by it you have not onely honoured us more, then any of Your Royall predeceſſors; but have thereby offered us the means to enrich our ſelves, to the making of us happier then our fathers, in freeing us from the cares and feares that hindred us from diving into theſe Mountaines that promiſe a maſſe of treaſure. For be pleaſed to know, that before Your Majeſty vouchſafed unto us this great favour, we were fearefull to adventure far into the mountaines, becauſe wee had far to ſend before wee could make the ſilver currant, that we ſhould at charge recover. Nor was our care of carriage and recarriage the leaſt hinderance to our proceedings, from all which by your Majeſties goodneſſe, and the endeavours of your induſtrious and faithfull ſervant *Thomas Buſhell*, we are happily freed; for which favour, we whoſe

whose names are hereunto subscribed in the behalfe of all the Inhabitants of this your Principality of WALES, doe render all humble and hearty thanks, and for them, and our selves, doe hereby promise to Your sacred Majesty, that we will doe our utmost endeavours, to finde out that measure, which wee beleeve God and Nature from the Creation hath preserved for Your Majesties use; that thereby we may approve our selves your Majesties loyall and most obedient Subjects and humble Servants.

Thomas Milward Knight,
Chiefe Iustice of *Chester*.
Marmaduke Lloyd Knight.
Richard Price K. Baronet.
Iames Price Knight.
Sampson Eure Knight.
John Lewis Knight.
Timothy Turnor Esquire.
L. Littleton Esq.
Walter Lloyd Esq.
Thomas Price Esq.
Robert Corbet Esq.
Evan Gwin Esq.
Morgan Herbert Esq.
John Vaughan Esq.
Vincent Corbet Esq.
Humfrey Greene Esq.
John Lloyd Esq.
David Lloyd ap Reignald Esq.
Thomas Phillips Esq.
John Edmund Esq.
Hugh Lloyd Gentlem.
David Rees Gent.
John Bowen Gent.
William Watkin Gent.
John Meredith Gent.
Iames Kegin Gent.

A Certificate from the *Miners*, presented to the Right Honourable, the Lords and other of his Majesties most Honourable Privy COVNCELL.

May it please your Lordships,

ACCORDING to your commands, Wee whose names are under written, being *Miners*, *Smelters*, *Refiners*, *Carryers*, *Washers*, and *Mongers* belonging to his Majesties *Mines Royall*, in the County of *Cardigan*, in all humility do certifie of our certaine knowledge and experience, concerning the new workes lately discovered by Gods providence to *Thomas Bushell* Esquire, Farmer of his Majesties *Mines-Royall* in these parts, that the said Master *Bushell* at his inestimable charge, having cut six hundred Fathome through the Rock at the lowest levels, North and South, for discovering the lost veine of *Cum-sum* lock, lying East and West, two hundred Fathome through the Mountaine of *Tallybont*, at sixty Fathome perpendicular, three severall *Addits* at *Kogiwgw*, one above another, twenty, and thirty Fathome center, another at the *Darren*, to come under the *Romans* worke, at an hundred Fathome center, another at *Bryn-LLoyd* fifty Fathom in length, and thirty Fathome center, working day and night for the Drayning

ing of the water, which formerly in the time of Cuſtomer *Smith*, and Sr. *Hugh Middleton* in their working of the *Mines-royall* was never uſed, they only working upon the Superficies of the Earth, the workes being drowned with water before they could ſink to the beſt of the veine, both for quantity and quality, and ſo the charge made to exceed the benefit, which danger is prevented by the aforeſaid, *Addits*, and the *Royall Mines* become more hopefull, eſpecially by the aſſiſtance of his Majeſties mint, for the ſpeedy payment of all thoſe that are imployed in the ſaid works, and Mr. *Buſhels* own invention to ſave Wood, by reducing the Ore into Lead, and Silver, with Turffe and Seacole Charked, which happy invention had it not been found out, the works muſt needs have beene left unwrought, the Country not able to have ſupplyed neceſſary Fewell. And further by the prohibition of tranſporting Ore unwrought, that holdeth ſilver worth the refining, which His *Majeſty* in his Princely wiſedome ſaw to be very prejudiciall, even to the utter overthrow of his *Mines-Royall*.

We have therefore great reaſon to be confident that his way of working, with the reſtraint of tranſporting Ore, will in ſhort time greatly increaſe the Bullion of this Kingdome, for the honour of the King, and good of the Common-wealth, together with the employment of many hundred poore people, which would be otherwiſe an unſupportable burthen to this barren Country, who by their preſent labour in theſe *Mines* are able to ſubſiſt with their Family and thouſands more might be daily ſet on worke if *Mr. Buſhells* under-

 takings

takings in the *Mines Royall* may be confirmed for a certaine time by this present High Court of Parliament.

Miners.

David Fowler.
William Ruſſly.
Henry Cockler.
David Bebb.
Ioſeph Iefferies.
George Turner.
Robert Downing.
Thomas Fletcher.
David Evans.
George Dixon.
Hugh Maſon.
David ap Richard.
David Loyd.
David Williams.
Henry Emblin.
Maurice Taylor.
John Emblin.
Edward Reece.
Hugh Reece.
William Davids.
George Scotſmer.
Thomas Brickhead
Will Griffith.
Peter Baniſter.
Francis Pierce.
Maurice Lewis.
Peter Ebniſter.
Edward Blewyt.
Rob. Emblin.
Rob. Tailor.
David Iinkins.
Ioſeph Acherſon.
Tho. Blewyt.
Michael Sanders.
Morgan Williams.
Tho. Clocker.
Tho. Greene.
Bartholl. Clocker.
Francis Fiſher.
Hugh Benn.
John Maſon.
George Tickle.
John Maſon.
John Fiſher.
Edmund Poole.
Edw. Bebb.
John Maſon ſen.
Will. Fichartib.

Evan

Evan Thomas.
John Harris.
Will. Tyson.
Watkin Reece.
John Smith.
Morgan Pritchet.

Griffith John.
Will. Reece.
John Tuddar.
John Huson.
Phillip Benn.
Thomas James.

With two Hundred more, whom for brevity we omit to name.

A

Moniers.

Henry Snab.
John Carbet.
Richard Arnold.

Refiners.

John Estapp.
David Estapp.
Samuell Johnson.
Edw. Gibbon.
Thomas Parker.
Arthur Elliss.

Smelters.

Thomas Botham.
Hugh James.
Griffith Evans.

John Watkin.
Jenkin Owen.
John Ephie.
John Evans.
John Lewes.
James Meredith.

Washers.

John Wringe.
Morgan John Lewis.
Davy John.
John Jinkins.
Morgan Griff. John.
Edmund Symons.
Reece Morgan.
Charles Williams.
Thomas Adams.

TO THE RIGHT HONOVRABLE the LORDS and others of His MAIESTIES most Honourable *Privy Councell.*

ACcording to Your Honours command wee have enquired and considered how the *Mines Royall* were left to Master *Bushell* by the Lady *Middleton*, and doe in all humility declare, that the silver Mines were not worth the working, untill Master *Bushell* at his great charge discovered Rich Ore in the adjacent mountaines, which in all likelihood will both increase the Bullion, and by his way of working, in short time give his *Majesty* a true tryall what the invaluable riches of these His *Welsh* mountaines are: for whereas the *Mines* in these parts were formerly wrought by Pumpes, and so growing deepe were left drowned with water, *M. Bushell* cuts through the maine Rockes, at the lowest levell, to an hundred fathome perpendicular, according to the German manner of working, which though chargeable, yet certaine, having foure severall Addits which he continueth driving day and night into foure severall mountaines, his industry also hath outstript former

times

times, for by melting the poore fusible Ore, with the Rich, hee produceth a third part more of silver with the same charge: and for accommodating the workes with all materialls fit for *Mines Royall*, hee hath spared no cost about repairing the milles, hath also built in his Majesties Castle of *Aberystwith* a faire mint, hath contracted with merchants of our owne and other Nations to supply the peoples necessity with Corne and other provisions, and payeth the miners and cariers at the Scales, and doubteth not to make them able Pyoners, and fit souldiers to doe his Majesty and their Country service upon any assault of an enemy. All which we commend to Your Honourable consideration, praying, &c.

Your Lordships humbly to be commanded.

Joseph Hexsteter, chiefe Steward of the Mines.
Samuel Reynish, } Assay Masters of the Mint.
Water Barkeshy, }
Humphrey Owen, Clarke of the Mines.

DIE SABBATI

14. *Aug.* 1641.

WHereas this House hath beene informed, that *Thomas Bushell* Esquire, undertaker of his MAIESTIES Mines-Royall in the County of *Cardigan*, by his great charge and industry in cutting Addits hath gained His MAIESTIES old drowned and forsaken workes of *Tallybont*, and other workes, And made new discoveries of Royall Mines there, which are already very considerable; And whereas divers persons of quality encouraged by his MAIESTIES Letters to them directed, doe intend to adventure great summes of money in the said workes, which in time (if well incouraged) may prove of great Consequence, both for Honour and Profit to His MAIESTY and the Kingdome. And whereas also it appeareth unto this house by divers Affidavits and Certificats of credit that some persons ill affected to their Honourable and Publike services who in time may receive deserved punishments, have disturbed the possession of the said *Thomas Bushell* in some of His MAIESTIES Mines-Royall, and Edifices appertaining to the Royall-workes, And have plucked up divers plumps cast in the Rubbish, drowned, and (so much as in them did lye) destroyed the

the ſaid workes, ſo as it hath beene a labour of foure yeeres night and day to recover the ſame. And that alſo the ſaid *Thomas Buſhell* hath beene diſturbed in the getting of Turfe and Peat for the Service of His MAIESTIES workes, being an invention of his owne, very commendable and commodious for the preſerving of Wood, which hath beene hereto'ore by the former undertakers much waſted in thoſe parts. Now for the remedy of the ſaid miſchiefes, and that the ſaid *Thomas Buſhell* and his aſſignes, and ſuch perſons as are or ſhall be Undertakers and Adventurers with him in the ſaid Service may receive all due Incouragement & Aſſiſtance in thoſe Chargeable undertakings; It is ordered by the LORDS in the upper Houſe of *Parliament* now aſſembled, That the *Speaker* of this Houſe, in the Name, and by the Authority of the ſame, ſhall direct His Letters unto the Judges of Aſſize, and Juſtices of the Peace of the ſaid County of *Cardigan* : Requiring them, that they doe in all lawfull things endeavour to advance, and encourage the ſaid ſervice in His MAIESTIES Royall Mines, and aſſiſt the ſaid *Thomas Buſhell* and other Vndertakers, in all things ſo farre as lawfully they may, both for the continuance of his lawfull Poſſeſſions, and the quiet and peaceable working of the ſaid mines, untill he ſhall be evicted by due courſe of Law, as alſo for getting and working of Turfe and Peate, according to his Legall right upon his MAIESTIES Waſtes, and other places lawfull, and all other lawfull accommodations of neceſſary paſſages, and other Legall things, which may any wayes advance His MAIESTIES ſervice in the ſaid Royall *Mines*.

JO. BROWNE. *Cler. Parliament.*

A letter from the L. KEEPER.

to the Justices of Assise, &c.

AFter my very hearty Commendations, I have here inclosed sent you an Order made in the House of the Lords *now assembled in* Parliament, *which you are carefully to observe and performe according to the directions thereof in all things, so far as Lawfully you may. So not doubting of your readinesse therein, I bid you heartily farewell, and rest*

Excester-house. 26.
Aug. 1641.

Your very loving friend

ED. LITTLETON.
Cust. Sig.

A letter to Mr. *Bushell*, relating some strange accidents, which happened in the MINES.

Honoured Sir,

SUffer my congratulations of your late successe at Tallybont *to be admitted amongst the rest who have represented the same to your imaginations: not so much for the historicall report of it, as for speculation on it; So it becomes my quality, for the rest are interessed, I a looker on Your* Addit *or great drift of* Tallybont, *after above* 200 *fathome in foure yeeres driving to come at the chiefe shaft of the old drown'd worke of* 38 *fathome deepe, being pearced by the water of the old worke,* June 27. *at midnight there befell two memorable accidents. The foure workemen about one in the night (as their manner was) withdrew to take Tobaco within ten fathome of the* Addits *mouth, lest in the forefield it should damp the ayre, which was conveyed to them by your leaden pipes with bellowes. Their smoakie banquet was not yet at an end, when they heard a mighty and fearefull noise, which some of them said was thunder. But old* Bartholmew Clocker (*a well experienced* Miner) *although he left the worke without any suspition of so neere an approach, resolved suddenly, the worke is holed, come let us away. No sooner had they gotten the free ayre, but out gusheth the torrent of water with an incredible fury, such a breach it made in the solid Rock that it arose a full yards height at the* Addits *mouth and drove away above* 100 *Tun*

of the rockie deade, affrighting the people of Talybont, *who heard the noise and felt the water in their houses. I doe not remember that I was ever more astonish'd at the prodigiousnesse of any spectacle, to see what perdition was threatned to the poore men, and they so to escape it. About foure houres after, the violence of water being past,* Fisher *one other of the* Miners *went in with more curiosity than wit, to see what effect it had wrought there: and being some sixty fathome in creeping very low, his candle enkindled a vapour, which came on him with three or foure flashes, and he suddenly returning had his haire burnt off, and his cloathes scortched, in which conclusion it gave a crack like the report of a peece, and then fierce gust of wind blew out the Candles of three more comming after him. To omit the Philosophicall inquisition of naturall causes, I account his preservation in as high a degree of wonder as the first. Thus happy are you here when least you thinke of it, for I find the subterranean spirits, the supposed guardians of concealed treasure, as officious for you as if they were in pay with you. But in a stile more proper to my penne, Behold Sir, how deare you are to providence, which for your sake hath vouchsafed to digresse into a miracle, and such a one as is able to convert the most Sophisticall* Atheist, *whence your piety will inferre, that the gracious Author of this incomparable bounty, expects from you some gratefull service, as high above ordinary (according to mortall capacity) as this favour hath beene extraordinary. We are all deeply in the same engagement, and have learned by this experiment, that these* Adaits *or approaches (for thats the sence of the name of old deluge works) are attempts of desperate hazzard. Me thinkes these Mountaines are as so many pregnant wombs, and now in labour call for your fortunate hands to deliver them, to the honour of your Royall Master, and perpetuated glory of the Nation.*

What

What should you doubt in an imployment so serenely smil'd upon, by the highest both of Heaven *and* Earth? *You use no enchantment, or magneticall Rod to discover the veines; your only magick is an ingenuous conjecture of probabilities, with a cheerfull and indefatigable industry, which hath hitherto succeeded beyond expectation of most, and (peradventure) the desires of some. But who (as* Agricola *makes the question) that is not of a nature impoyson'd with envy, and malitiousnesse, can beare unfriendly thoughts to him, whose substance is in a manner presented by the hand of God.* Lib. 1. de R. M.

I know it would be a motive of very feeble operation to tell you how Princes and States have raised their Crownes, by descending into such abysses as these; with some of whom wanton antiquity hath been: pleased to sport her selfe, and to play upon the simplicity of many, as Midas, Gyges, *the* Argonauts, Cœsus, *with the States of* Athens, *over whose Minerals was that renowned* Thucydides *a* Præfect, *as you are here. Of which* Pliny *delivers what may be worthy your attention, when he sayes of them, that they were in a fruitlesse soyle, and on the hills, (as these with us.) And whersoever one veine was found, it was not far from another; among which was one called* Bebelo, *that afforded him* 300. *pound weight of Silver a day.*

These were then the veines which conveyed the blood and spirit of life through all the limmes of his victorious Host. And have you not here our Britaines Asturia *before you? Who knowes whether it may not yeeld a* Bebelo? *at least a* Sneberg *or* Anneberg, *who hath heretofore dream't of a Mine at* Comsomloch, *or of the happy lot you lately drew from the Mountaines of* Keginian, Talybont, *the* Darren, Broom-Floyd *and* Cum-mervin? *What did the outside of these promise you more then the countenances of their neighbours? But*

The complaint of learned Dr. Jurdan *may here take place, that much silver was lost, for want of taking it out of Lead Oares. For whereas those Oares which are rich in silver are commonly hard of fusion, our minerall men neglect those Oares. No doubt many are concealed by reason they are Mines Royall.*

Where had beene the Woods and Forrests yet undestroyed on these bald-headed Promontories that might suffice had you not taught the earth to afford you all, and the worthlesse valley, to meet the barren hill, by sending in fewell, to give forme to the matter: so that here is a rich bequest you leave to posterity, I meane your Eternizing the workes, by preventing the excesse of water, and defect of fire. I have no more, but to signifie my confidence, that as your desires are set on the materiall Rocks of Wales *and* Enstone, *so will your better affections be firmely grounded upon the Rock* Christ Jesus, *that no tempest may be able to shake you, when the Sandy projects of other will be lawed to nothing by the floods they are built upon. Which will give more comfort and satisfaction to you then can be expressed by your*

True Friend and Servant,

Iulii 4. 1641.

THO. BRODWAY.

An answer to Mr. *Broadwaies* LETTER.

M. *Broadway*,

YOur true relation, and lively expreſſion of the miraculous delivery of the poore Miners from the deluge of Waters, which iſſued forth, upon the cutting through of *Tallybont* mountaine, ſeemeth by the contents of your Letter to promiſe no other reward, to the firſt diſcoverers, then eminent danger of preſent death, in which, as in all things, we muſt aſcribe the glory to God alone, and as the children of Iſrael were to meet with many hard accidents in thoſe deſarts, ſo muſt wee reſolve to encounter with many bitter ſtormes before we can diſcover Natures riches hidden in thoſe mountaines, and who can expreſſe my ſufferings, priſing my reputation above life or fortunes? For fame flying with the wings of malice, deſirous to put a period to theſe my harmleſſe endeavours, hath made as you partly know, my ſuppoſed friends, to become my profeſſed Foes, and my neereſt in blood, my greateſt ſorrow, leaving mee as naked, as was *Iob* in his greateſt affliction, ſome conſtruing theſe my *Minerall adventures* to bee but the fabricke of a fantaſticke braine, others alledging that the greatneſſe of my charge would ruine both mee, and thoſe who gave me credit, whereby thoſe friends that conferred on me timely curteſies, inſtead of encrea-

ſing

ting, or continuing them, were moved to presse mee for more speedy payment, then my present abilities were able to make good. What throes of sorrow perplext my midnight thoughts in these deepe ingagements, I leave to you to judge. I will therefore hasten my comming downe, to settle the affaires of this great worke, that I might redeeme the mispent time of my youth by some memorable designe in my age, the hopefulnesse whereof you are pleased so to amplifie, which I trust will give livelyhood to many, injury to none, and bee of much honour to our Nation, which was ever the height of my ambition, resolving to rest content with whatsoever the wise disposer of all should conferre upon mee, and hereafter to leave those friends in trust, whom I found firmest, thereby both to pay themselves, and satisfie others, to whom I stand engaged. And thus with many thanks for your kind letter, and good counsell, I shall ever remaine

Your faithfull friend,

THO. BVSHELL.

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